

Global café

Purpose

A semi-structured technique which enables participants to engage in several conversations on different but related pre-determined topics.

Process

- Decide on the number of cafés with each café focusing on one main concept or issue.
- Select participants to be café owners. Each café owner sets up a table with a label for the conversation focus and stays at that café.
- The café owner's role is to listen and record significant parts of conversations which take place among the patrons on the given issue.
- All other participants are free to visit each café and contribute to conversations with other patrons. As groups form and reform, the café owner may summarise previous conversation points to the new group.
- Allow a designated time for each of the conversations.
- Café owners report back to the whole group.



Product

The reports of the café owners provide a rich record of the ideas, questions and issues raised by participants as they pass through their cafés. The points made may be prioritised for further discussion, clarification and/or action.

PrimaryConnections examples

- Cafés focusing on the PrimaryConnections 5Es teaching and learning model.
- Cafés to help distinguish between the terms 'everyday literacies', 'literacies of science' and 'scientific literacy'.
- Cafés focused on the roles of director, manager and speaker in cooperative learning groups.

Reference

Country Area Program, NSW Department of Education and Training. See www.cap.nsw.edu.au